

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00721 140155Z  
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 CPR-01 /018 W  
-----140702Z 062574 /12

R 140115Z APR 77  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7589  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0721

DEPARTMENT FOR EA/PRCM

BANGKOK FOR BRDCO

E.O. 11652: GDS-1  
TAGS: OGEN, PDIP, AFSP, CH

SUBJ: PRC RESTRICTIONS ON DIPLOMATIC POUCHES

REF: (1) STATE 71748 (NOTAL)  
(2) PEKING 348

1. USLO WISHES TO REXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR ANALYSIS OF  
DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ON DIPLOMATIC POUCHES. THE GUIDANCE  
IS MOST HELPFUL.

2. INDICATIONS ARE THAT PRC MAY NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE  
APPLYING ARTICLE VII OF JANUARY 1, 1977 REGULATIONS TO  
USLO POUCHES, I.E., "DIPLOMATIC BAGS ... MAY CONTAIN  
NOTHING EXCEPT DIPLOMATIC PAPERS, REFERENCE MATERIAL AND  
STATIONARY ..."

3. ON APRIL 5 USLO RECEIVED AN UNCLASSIFIED, UNACCOMPANIE,  
AIR POUCH. THE POUCH WAS IN THE FORM OF A BURLAP COVERED  
BOX, STANDING OVER FOUR FEET HIGH. THE DIPLOMATIC SEAL WAS  
ON THE EXTERIOR. TO PRC CUSTOM OFFICIALS FROM ITS  
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APPEARANCE IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE POUCH MIGHT POSSIBLY  
BE IN CONTRAVENTION OF ARTICLE VII. ALTHOUGH UNDECLARED  
TO CUSTOMS, THE ACTUAL CONTENT WAS A SOUNDPROOFING MECH-  
ANISM FOR INSTALLATION ON COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT. THE  
POUCH WAS IMMEDIATELY RELEASED TO USLO REPRESENTATIVE  
WITHOUT A COMMENT.

4. THIS INCIDENT IS CITED BECAUSE IT SEEMS ALMOST  
PARALLEL TO THE FRENCH SITUATION CITED IN PARA 6 REFTEL (2),  
THAT IS, A LARGE, UNACCOMPANIED BOX, WRAPPED AND BEARING A SEAL.

5. SINCE DATE OF REFTEL (2), USLO HAS NOT LEARNED OF ANY  
NEW DISPUTE OF CUSTOM CLEARANCE BY OTHER MISSIONS, BUT POST  
CONTINUES TO MONITOR THE QUESTION AND WILL KEEP THE DEPARTMENT  
INFORMED.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC POUCHES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PEKING00721  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770129-0349  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PEKING  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 703823a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION L  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 71748, 77 PEKING 348  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2806322  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRC RESTRICTIONS ON DIPLOMATIC POUCHES  
**TAGS:** OGEN, PDIP, AFSP, CH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/703823a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009